

Pupil Allocation 2008/09

	Catawba	Hickory	Newton-Conover	Total
Per Pupil				
Average Attendance	17,715	4,686	2,848	25,249
2008/09 County Base	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
Joint School Programs	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00
2% Teacher Supplement	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00
Technology	65.00	65.00	65.00	65.00
Fines & Forfeitures	51.00	51.00	51.00	51.00
School Fund Balance	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Total	\$1,471.00	\$1,471.00	\$1,471.00	\$1,471.00
System Total				
2008/09 County Base	\$22,143,750	\$5,857,500	\$3,560,000	\$31,561,250
Joint School Programs	921,180	243,672	148,096	1,312,948
2% Teacher Supplement	814,890	215,556	131,008	1,161,454
Technology	1,151,475	304,590	185,120	1,641,185
Fines & Forfeitures	903,465	238,986	145,248	1,287,699
School Fund Balance	124,005	32,802	19,936	176,743
Total	\$26,058,765	\$6,893,106	\$4,189,408	\$37,141,279

Budget Highlights

Current expense funding pays for the operating needs of the schools including both instructional programs and support services. North Carolina General Statutes allow the Board of Commissioners to allocate current expense funding in a variety of ways. Catawba County has always provided a lump sum amount per pupil and left the decision of where to spend with the school systems. The School Budget and Fiscal Control Act requires the County to fund each school system the same amount per pupil based on average daily membership (ADM) figures certified by the State and based on the highest attendance figures of the first two out of three months of the school year.

The recommended funding includes a 4.6% increase over Fiscal Year 2007/08 in per pupil funding. A portion of the new ¼ cent sales tax (\$362,500) that went into effect in April 2007 has been added to the technology funds bringing the County per pupil funding to \$1,413. Also included in this amount is funding for joint programs and additional funds added in 2005/06 to increase teacher supplements.

The base budget for each school system includes funds for jointly operated school programs. These include Challenger High School, Conover School for exceptional children, the ACT Program, Community Schools, Catawba Valley High School, and the school bus garage. Since the funding for these special programs is combined in the base allocation, the three superintendents have worked out a method to reimburse each other for these inter-system program costs.

State certified projections indicate a small decrease in students for Catawba County Schools of 87 students. Newton-Conover Schools' numbers have a decrease of 121 students but Hickory Public Schools' number increased by 227 students for an overall net gain of 19 students Countywide. The change in the State certified numbers results in a funding increase of 4% for Catawba County Schools, a 10% increase for Hickory Public Schools, and a 0% increase for Newton-Conover Schools.